GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2838
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2005
BENEFITS OF FLY ASH
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the benefits of fly ash;

(b) the extent to which it helps clean the environment; and

(c) the steps proposed/ taken to put fly ash to proper use?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) and (b) If fly ash is left as such it will cause air pollution. If it is disposed on land by way of ash pond it occupies huge area of land and also uses large quantity of water. By utilising fly ash we can prevent air and water pollution and release the land being used up in ash pond construction. By using fly ash the environment would not only be clean but also there are benefits. The use of fly ash in the manufacture of clay bricks and in road construction reduce the consumption of soil which is required for maintaining our agricultural productivity and food security. It is used in the cement manufacture thus helping in the reduction of consumption of limestone. By using fly ash in agriculture some of the micro-nutrients are provided to the crops.

(c) A number of steps has been taken by Government of India to put fly ash to proper use. To cite a few, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests has already brought out legislation for conservation of soil and prevention of disposal of fly ash on land. Besides this, Bureau of Indian Standards has brought out standards for about 50 fly ash products. The Indian Road Congress has brought out specifications for construction of National Highways and Rural Roads which permits the use of fly ash in road construction. The Central and State Government and their agencies have included fly ash/` fly ash products in their specifications, schedule of rates and tender documents.